#### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## HOUSE BILL NO. 105

# BY JUDICIARY, RULES, AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

## AN ACT

RELATING TO FEES; AMENDING SECTION 1-2303, IDAHO CODE, TO INCREASE THE FILING FEE FOR SMALL CLAIMS CASES AND TO REVISE THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE FILING FEE FOR SMALL CLAIMS CASES TO PROVIDE THAT A CERTAIN AMOUNT SHALL BE DEPOSITED IN THE SENIOR MAGISTRATE JUDGES FUND; AMENDING SECTION 31-3201A, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO CERTAIN DISTRICT COURT FEES, TO PROVIDE CORRECT CODE REFERENCES AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS; AND AMENDING SECTION 18-918, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE A CORRECT CODE REFERENCE.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section 1-2303, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

1-2303. FILING OF CLAIM – DEFAULT. Upon filing a claim, the clerk shall furnish to the plaintiff a form of answer and instructions to the defendant, which, among other matters shall advise the defendant that if the defendant desires to have a hearing on the matter, the defendant must sign, complete and file the answer with the clerk. The instructions also shall notify the defendant that if the defendant does not sign and file the answer within twenty (20) days from the date of service on the defendant, judgment will be entered as requested in the claim.

If no answer is filed within twenty (20) days, judgment may be entered by the court as provided in Rule 55, I.R.C.P. If an answer is filed by the defendant, the court shall set the matter for trial or mediation, by notice mailed to each party.

The court shall collect in advance upon each claim the sum of seven thirteen dollars (\$713.00), which shall be in addition to the costs necessary to effect service of the claim upon the defendant, and which This fee shall be distributed as follows: seven dollars (\$7.00) shall be paid to the county treasurer for deposit in the district court fund of the county and six dollars (\$6.00) shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall, within five (5) days after the end of the month, pay such fee to the state treasurer for deposit in the senior magistrate judges fund.

SECTION 2. That Section 31-3201A, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 31-3201A. COURT FEES. The clerk of the district court in addition to the fees and charges imposed by chapter 20, title 1, Idaho Code, and in addition to the fee levied by chapter 2, title 73, Idaho Code, shall charge, demand and receive the following fees for services rendered by him in discharging the duties imposed upon him by law;
- (a1) <u>Civil cases.</u> A fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for filing a civil case of any type in the district court or in the magistrate's division of the district court including cases involving

the administration of decedents' estates, whether testate or intestate, and conservatorships of the person or of the estate or both with the following exceptions:

The filing fee shall be twenty eight dollars (\$28.00) in each case where the amount of money or damages or the value of personal property claimed does not exceed three hundred dollars (\$300). The filing fee shall be thirty dollars (\$30.00) in the following types of eases:

- (<u>+a</u>) Where the amount of money or damages or the value of personal property elaimed exceeds three hundred dollars (\$300) but does not exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). The fee for small claims shall be as provided in section 1-2303, Idaho Code;
- (2b) Where a case is brought for foreible or unlawful entry or detainer whether brought for rent or possession or both and regardless of the amount;
- (3) Where a case is brought under chapter 20, title 16, Idaho Code, for the termination of parent child relationship;
- (4) Where a case is brought under chapter 2, title 32, Idaho Code, for permission to marry;
- (5) Where a ease involving the administration of a decedent's estate is brought under the summary administration of small estates act;
- (6) In eases where a court order is issued only for a certain specific reason other than the administering of an estate, including, but not limited to, proceedings brought under sections 14 114, 15 514, 15 1401, 15 1518 and/or 15 1709, Idaho Code, or for some specific reason;
- (7) In eases brought to determine heirship without administration;
- (8) In eases brought to determine inheritance or transfer tax;
- (9) In proceedings brought for adoption;

(10) In proceedings brought for letters of guardianship of the person or of the estate or both.

No filing fee shall be charged in the following types of cases:

- (<u>+i</u>) <u>In eC</u> ases brought under chapter 3, title 66, Idaho Code, for commitment of mentally ill persons;
- (2ii) In eCases brought under the juvenile corrections act;
- (3<u>iii</u>) In eCases brought under the child protective act;
- (iv) Demands for bond before a personal representative is appointed in probate;
- (v) Petitions for sterilization;
- (vi) Petitions for judicial consent to abortion;
- (vii) Registration of trusts and renunciations;
- (viii) Petitions for leave to compromise the disputed claim of a minor;
- (ix) Petitions for a civil protection order or to enforce a foreign civil protection order pursuant to chapter 63, title 39, Idaho Code;
- (x) Objections to the appointment of a guardian filed by a minor or an incapacitated person;
- (xi) Proceedings to suspend a license for nonpayment of child support pursuant to section 7-1405, Idaho Code;
- (xii) Proceedings under the uniform post-conviction procedure act as provided in chapter 49, title 19, Idaho Code;
- (xiii) Filings of a custody decree from another state;
- (xiv) Filings of any answer after an initial appearance fee has been paid.

In all eases in which a The filing fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) is paid, shall be distributed as follows: seventeen dollars (\$17.00) of such filing fee shall be paid to the county treasurer for deposit in the district court fund of the county; ten dollars (\$10.00) of such filing fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall, within five (5) days after the end of the month, pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit into the ISTARS technology fund; seventeen dollars (\$17.00) of such filing fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in accordance with subsection (\$\frac{1}{2}\$15) of this section; and six dollars (\$6.00) of such filing fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall, within five (5) days after the end of the month, pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in the senior magistrate judges fund. In all eases in which a filing fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00) is paid, four dollars (\$4.00) of such filing fee shall be paid to the county treasurer for deposit in the district court fund of the county; ten dollars (\$10.00) of such filing fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall, within five (5) days after the end of the month, pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit into the ISTARS technology fund; ten dollars (\$10.00) of such filing fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in accordance with subsection (p) of this section; and six dollars (\$6.00) of such filing fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall, within five (5) days after the end of the month, pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in the senior magistrate judges fund. In all eases in which a filing fee of twenty eight dollars (\$28.00) is paid, three dollars (\$3.00) of such filing fee shall be paid to the county treasurer for deposit in the district court fund of the county; ten dollars (\$10.00) of such filing fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall, within five (5) days after the end of the month, pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit into the ISTARS technology fund; nine dollars (\$9.00) of such filing fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in accordance with subsection (p) of this section; and six dollars (\$6.00) of such filing fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall, within five (5) days after the end of the month, pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in the senior magistrate judges fund.

- (b2) Felonies and misdemeanors. A fee of seventeen dollars and fifty cents (\$17.50) shall be paid, but not in advance, by each person found guilty of any felony or misdemeanor, except when the court orders such fee waived because the person is indigent and unable to pay such fee. If the magistrate court facilities are provided by the county, five dollars (\$5.00) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer for deposit in the district court fund of the county; and twelve dollars and fifty cents (\$12.50) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in accordance with subsection (p15) of this section. If the magistrate court facilities are provided by a city, five dollars (\$5.00) of such fee shall be paid to the city treasurer for deposit in the city general fund, two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50) of such fee shall be paid to the city treasurer for deposit in the city capital facilities fund for the construction, remodeling and support of magistrates court facilities, and ten dollars (\$10.00) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in accordance with subsection (p15) of this section.
- (e3) <u>Infractions.</u> A fee of sixteen dollars and fifty cents (\$16.50) shall be paid, but not in advance, by each person found to have committed an infraction or any minor traffic, conservation or ordinance violation; provided that the judge or magistrate may in his or her discretion consolidate separate nonmoving traffic offenses into one (1) offense for purposes of assessing such fee. If the magistrate court facilities are provided by the county, five dollars (\$5.00) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer for deposit in the district court fund

of the county; and eleven dollars and fifty cents (\$11.50) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer, who shall pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in accordance with subsection (p15) of this section. If the magistrate court facilities are provided by a city, five dollars (\$5.00) of such fee shall be paid to the city treasurer for deposit in the city general fund, two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50) of such fee shall be paid to the city treasurer for deposit in the city capital facilities fund for the construction, remodeling and support of magistrate court facilities, and nine dollars (\$9.00) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in accordance with subsection (p15) of this section.

- (d4) Initial appearance other than plaintiff. A fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00) shall be paid for any filing constituting the initial appearance by any party, except the plaintiff, making an appearance in any civil action in the district court or in the magistrate's division of the district court, except small claims. If two (2) or more parties are making their initial appearance in the same filing, then only one (1) filing fee shall be collected. Of such fee, four dollars (\$4.00) shall be paid to the county treasurer for deposit in the district court fund of the county; ten dollars (\$10.00) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall, within five (5) days after the end of the month, pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in accordance with subsection (p15) of this section; and six dollars (\$6.00) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall, within five (5) days after the end of the month, pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in the senior magistrate judges fund.
- (e5) Accountings. A fee of nine dollars (\$9.00) shall be paid by the person or persons required to make an account pursuant to either chapter 11 or chapter 18, title 15, Idaho Code, at the time such account is filed. All of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer for deposit in the district court fund of the county.
- ( $\frac{6}{10}$ ) Distribution of estate. A fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) shall be paid upon the filing of a petition of the executor or administrator or of any person interested in an estate for the distribution of such estate, six dollars (\$6.00) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer for deposit in the district court fund of the county; thirteen dollars (\$13.00) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in accordance with subsection ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of this section; and six dollars (\$6.00) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall, within five (5) days after the end of the month, pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in the senior magistrate judges fund.
- (g7) A fee of thirteen dollars (\$13.00) shall be paid by an intervenor upon making an appearance in any civil action in the district court or in the magistrate's division of the district court. Seven dollars (\$7.00) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer for deposit in the district court fund of the county; and six dollars (\$6.00) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall, within five (5) days after the end of the month, pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in the senior magistrate judges fund.
- (h) Third party claim. A fee of fourteen dollars (\$14.00) shall be paid by a party filing a third party claim as defined in the Idaho Rerules of Coivil Pprocedure. Eight dollars (\$8.00) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer for deposit in the district court fund of the county; and six dollars (\$6.00) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall, within five (5) days after the end of the month, pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in the senior magistrate judges fund.

(†8) <u>Cross-claims.</u> A fee of fourteen dollars (\$14.00) shall be paid by any party filing a cross-claim. Eight dollars (\$8.00) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer for deposit in the district court fund of the county; and six dollars (\$6.00) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall, within five (5) days after the end of the month, pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in the senior magistrate judges fund.

- ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) Change of venue. A fee of nine dollars (\$9.00) shall be paid by a party initiating a change of venue. Such fee shall be paid to the clerk of the court of the county to which venue is changed. All of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer for deposit in the district court fund of the county.
- (\*10) Reopening a case. A fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) shall be paid by any party appearing after judgment or applying to reopen a case. Nine dollars (\$9.00) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer for deposit in the district court fund of the county; and six dollars (\$6.00) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall, within five (5) days after the end of the month, pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in the senior magistrate judges fund. A fee of thirty-eight dollars (\$38.00) shall be paid by a party applying to reopen a divorce action or modify a divorce decree, with seventeen dollars (\$17.00) of the fee to be paid to the county treasurer for deposit in the district court fund of the county; fifteen dollars (\$15.00) of such fee to be paid to the county treasurer who shall pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in accordance with subsection (\*15) of this section; and six dollars (\$6.00) of such fee to be paid to the county treasurer who shall, within five (5) days after the end of the month, pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in the senior magistrate judges fund.
- (\$\frac{11}{11}\$) Appeal to district court. A fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) shall be paid by a party taking an appeal from the magistrate's division of the district court to the district court; and six dollars (\$6.00) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall, within five (5) days after the end of the month, pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in the senior magistrate judges fund. No additional fee shall be required if a new trial is granted. All of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer for deposit in the district court fund of the county.
- (m12) Appeal to supreme court. A fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) shall be paid by the party taking an appeal from the district court to the supreme court for comparing and certifying the transcript on appeal, if such certificate is required. Nine dollars (\$9.00) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer for deposit in the district court fund of the county; and six dollars (\$6.00) of such fee shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall, within five (5) days after the end of the month, pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit in the senior magistrate judges fund.
- (n13) Fees not covered by this section shall be set by rule or administrative order of the supreme court.
- (e14) All fees required to be paid by this section or by rule or administrative order of the supreme court shall be collected by the clerk of the district court or by a person appointed by the clerk of the district court for this purpose. If it appears that there is a necessity for such fees to be collected by persons other than the clerk of the district court or a person designated by the clerk for such purpose, the supreme court by rule or administrative order may provide for the designation of persons authorized to receive such fees. Persons so designated shall account for such fees in the same manner required of the clerk of the district court and shall pay such fees to the clerk of the district court of the county in which such fees are collected.

(p15) That portion of the filing fees required to be remitted to the state treasurer for deposit pursuant to subsections (a1), (b2), (e3), (d4), and (f6) and (10) of this section shall be apportioned eighty-six percent (86%) to the state general fund and fourteen percent (14%) to the peace officers standards and training fund authorized in section 19-5116, Idaho Code, within five (5) days after the end of the month in which such fees were remitted to the county treasurer. That portion of the filing fees required to be remitted to a city treasurer for deposit in the city's general fund shall be remitted within five (5) days after the end of the month in which such fees were remitted to the county treasurer.

- (<u>q16</u>) Of the fees derived from the filing of any divorce action required to be transmitted to the state treasurer, the county treasurer shall retain five dollars (\$5.00), which shall be separately identified and deposited in the district court fund of the county. Such moneys shall be used exclusively for the purpose of establishing a uniform system of qualifying and approving persons, agencies or organizations to conduct evaluations of persons convicted of domestic assault or battery as provided in section 18-918, Idaho Code, and the administration of section 18-918(7), Idaho Code, relating to the evaluation and counseling or other treatment of such persons, including the payment of the costs of evaluating and counseling or other treatment of an indigent defendant. No provision of chapter 52, title 39, Idaho Code, shall apply to the moneys provided for in this subsection.
- (#17) In consideration of the aforesaid fees the clerk of the district court shall be required to perform all lawful service that may be required of him by any party thereto; provided, that he shall not prepare and furnish any certified copy of any file or record in an action except printed transcript on appeal, without additional compensation as provided by law.
- SECTION 3. That Section 18-918, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

### 18-918. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE. (1) For the purpose of this section:

- (a) "Household member" means a person who is a spouse, former spouse, or a person who has a child in common regardless of whether they have been married or a person with whom a person is cohabiting, whether or not they have married or have held themselves out to be husband or wife.
- (b) "Traumatic injury" means a condition of the body, such as a wound or external or internal injury, whether of a minor or serious nature, caused by physical force.
- (2) (a) Any household member who in committing a battery, as defined in section 18-903, Idaho Code, inflicts a traumatic injury upon any other household member is guilty of a felony.
- (b) A conviction of felony domestic battery is punishable by imprisonment in the state prison for a term not to exceed ten (10) years or by a fine not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or by both fine and imprisonment.
- (3) (a) A household member who commits an assault, as defined in section 18-901, Idaho Code, against another household member which does not result in traumatic injury is guilty of a misdemeanor domestic assault.
- (b) A household member who commits a battery, as defined in section 18-903, Idaho Code, against another household member which does not result in traumatic injury is guilty of a misdemeanor domestic battery.
- (c) A first conviction under this subsection (3) is punishable by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or by imprisonment in a county jail not to exceed six (6)

months, or both. Any person who pleads guilty to or is found guilty of a violation of this subsection (3) who previously has pled guilty to or been found guilty of a violation of this subsection (3), or of any substantially conforming foreign criminal violation, notwithstanding the form of the judgment or withheld judgment, within ten (10) years of the first conviction, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by imprisonment in the county jail for a term not to exceed one (1) year or by a fine not exceeding two thousand dollars (\$2,000) or by both fine and imprisonment. Any person who pleads guilty to or is found guilty of a violation of this subsection (3) who previously has pled guilty to or been found guilty of two (2) violations of this subsection (3), or of any substantially conforming foreign criminal violation or any combination thereof, notwithstanding the form of the judgment or withheld judgment, within fifteen (15) years of the first conviction, shall be guilty of a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for a term not to exceed five (5) years or by a fine not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or by both fine and imprisonment.

- (4) The maximum penalties provided in this section shall be doubled where the act of domestic assault or battery for which the person is convicted or pleads guilty took place in the presence of a child. For purposes of this section, "in the presence of a child" means in the physical presence of a child or knowing that a child is present and may see or hear an act of domestic assault or battery. For purposes of this section, "child" means a person under sixteen (16) years of age.
- (5) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, any person who previously has pled guilty to or been found guilty of a felony violation of the provisions of this section or of any substantially conforming foreign criminal felony violation, notwithstanding the form of the judgment or withheld judgment, and who within fifteen (15) years pleads guilty to or is found guilty of any further violation of this section, shall be guilty of a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for a term not to exceed ten (10) years or by a fine not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or by both such fine and imprisonment.
- (6) For the purposes of this section, a substantially conforming foreign criminal violation exists when a person has pled guilty to or been found guilty of a violation of any federal law or law of another state, or any valid county, city or town ordinance of another state, substantially conforming with the provisions of this section. The determination of whether a foreign criminal violation is substantially conforming is a question of law to be determined by the court.
  - (7) (a) Any person who pleads guilty to or is found guilty of a violation of this section shall undergo, at the person's own expense, an evaluation by a person, agency or organization approved by the court in accordance with paragraph (c) of this subsection to determine whether the defendant should be required to obtain aggression counseling or other appropriate treatment. Such evaluation shall be completed prior to the sentencing date if the court's list of approved evaluators, in accordance with paragraph (c) of this subsection, contains evaluators who are able to perform the evaluation prior to the sentencing dates. If the evaluation recommends counseling or other treatment, the evaluation shall recommend the type of counseling or treatment considered appropriate for the defendant, together with the estimated costs thereof, and shall recommend any other suitable alternative counseling or treatment programs, together with the estimated costs thereof. The defendant shall request that a copy of the completed evaluation be forwarded to the court. The court shall take the evaluation into consideration in

 determining an appropriate sentence. If a copy of the completed evaluation has not been provided to the court, the court may proceed to sentence the defendant; however, in such event, it shall be presumed that counseling is required unless the defendant makes a showing by a preponderance of evidence that counseling is not required. If the defendant has not made a good faith effort to provide the completed copy of the evaluation to the court, the court may consider the failure of the defendant to provide the report as an aggravating circumstance in determining an appropriate sentence. If counseling or other treatment is ordered, in no event shall the person, agency or organization doing the evaluation be the person, agency or organization that provides the counseling or other treatment unless this requirement is waived by the sentencing court, with the exception of federally recognized Indian tribes or federal military installations, where diagnosis and treatment are appropriate and available. Nothing herein contained shall preclude the use of funds authorized for court-ordered counseling or treatment pursuant to this section for indigent defendants as provided by law. In the event that funding is provided for or on behalf of the defendant by a governmental entity, the defendant shall be ordered to make restitution to such governmental entity in accordance with the restitution procedure for crime victims, as specified under chapter 53, title 19, Idaho Code.

- (b) If the evaluation recommends counseling or other treatment, the court shall order the person to complete the counseling or other treatment in addition to any other sentence which may be imposed. If the court determines that counseling or treatment would be inappropriate or undesirable, the court shall enter findings articulating the reasons for such determination on the record. The court shall order the defendant to complete the preferred counseling or treatment program set forth in the evaluation, or a comparable alternative, unless it appears that the defendant cannot reasonably obtain adequate financial resources for such counseling or treatment. In that event, the court may order the defendant to complete a less costly alternative set forth in the evaluation or a comparable program. Nothing contained in this subsection shall be construed as requiring a court to order that counseling or treatment be provided at government expense unless otherwise required by law.
- (c) Each judicial district shall by rule establish a uniform system for the qualification and approval of persons, agencies or organizations to perform the evaluations required in this subsection. Only qualified evaluators approved by the court shall be authorized to perform such evaluations. Funds to establish a system for approval of evaluators shall be derived from moneys designated therefor and deposited in the district court fund as provided in section 31-3201A(\(\frac{1}{9}16\)), Idaho Code.
- (d) Counseling or treatment ordered pursuant to this section shall be conducted according to standards established or approved by the Idaho council on domestic violence.